

THE Spacemaker

NEWSLETTER

VOL. 1, No. 6

McClellan Air Force Base, Calif. (<http://www.mcclellan.af.mil/PA/spacemaker.html>)

FEB. 17, 2000

TAKE NOTE

Information Assurance briefing

The Information Assurance office will give an awareness briefing Wednesday at the base theater, 9 a.m., 10 a.m., 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. The briefing will be approximately 45 minutes and is open to all base personnel. This briefing can be applied to the mandatory annual training requirement.

Power outage Sunday

The following buildings will experience a power outage or disruption in service Sunday from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. Bldgs. 680, 687, 698, 707, 708, 724, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768 and EM pump. For questions, contact Jim McCarthy, 77th Support Group, Civil Engineering at 643-5715.

Free Museum Day

The Sacramento Association of Museums is hosting the second annual Sacramento Museum Day, Feb. 26, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thirteen area museums, including McClellan Aviation Museum, will offer free admission. A shuttle service will be provided between museums. For more information, call (916) 923-7474, Ext. 6699 or (916) 264-7777.

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"Completing the mission of McClellan Air Force Base with professionalism and honor"

938th EIS defeats competition

□ Base personnel receive top honors at ceremony

By Pamela Roth

938th Engineering Installation Squadron

The 38th Engineering Installation Wing, based at Tinker Air Force Base, Okla., held its final annual awards banquet Feb. 3, before its deactivation Feb. 4.

The 38th EIW is made up of several geographically separated units spread throughout the continental United States. Although the competition was tough, three members of the 938th Engineering Installation Squadron received top honors.

Company Grade Officer of the Year

1st Lt. Guy Navarro is a local area network/wide area network systems engineer. In the past year, he directed 43 engineering projects at 41 locations, and is credited as the 38th EIW's Tactical Secure Voice expert. He eliminated a backlog of more than 150 TSV projects, and engineered short-notice TSV radio system for Operation Allied Force. Navarro teaches fitness to the physically disadvantaged and elderly and is an active member of the Armed Forces Communications Electronics Association. He is also the chairman of American Radio Relay League.

First Sergeant of the Year

Master Sgt. Daniel Cormier manages a 317-member high operations tempo group of warfighters deployed to 29 locations; giving the 938th EIS the wing's highest temporary duty rate. Cormier has served as president of McClellan's First Sergeants' Council; helped coordinate the 1999 First Sergeant



U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Troy McCall

Senior Master Sgt. Joey McCoy (left), Master Sgt. Daniel Cormier (center) and 1st Lt. Guy Navarro (right), show off their plaques at the awards banquet.

symposium; and mentored 22 senior non-commissioned officers. He's an active member of both the base and unit Top-3, and the Air Force Sergeants Association.

Senior Noncommissioned Officer of the Year

Senior Master Sgt. Joey McCoy is superintendent of the Electronics Systems Flight. He orchestrated the squadron-wide deployment of two seven-person multi-discipline teams for contingency taskings at Prince Sultan Air Base, Saudi Arabia. McCoy coordinated the completion of 140 days of requirements in 86 days. He was handpicked by the 938th commander to represent the squadron at the worldwide engineering workload conference; where he was involved in the new "total force" concept. He contributed to streamlining workload with both active-duty and National Guard units, bringing the engineering installation mission into the 21st Century.

Navarro, Cormier and McCoy will compete for Electronic Systems Command honors at Hanscom Air Force Base, Mass., later this year.



Courtesy photo

Honorary visitor

The Honorable Helen T. McCoy (left), assistant secretary of the Army for financial management and comptroller, and the American Society of Military Comptrollers national president, was the guest speaker at the Feb. 9 luncheon of the ASMC Forty Niner Chapter. Dee Martin (right), ASMC chapter president presents McCoy with a certificate of appreciation and a \$25 donation to the Make a Wish Foundation in her name. McCoy addressed the audience with the latest information on ASMC issues, including the new Department of Defense program "Defense Financial Management Certification." Prior to the luncheon, McCoy met with the Army Corps of Engineers for mission and financial briefings. After the luncheon, she met with the local Army Recruiting Battalion to discuss recruiting and the funding challenges.

Civilian personnel employees go above, beyond

The Honorable Ruby Butler DeMesme, assistant secretary of the Air Force for manpower, reserve affairs, installations and environment, presents the Secretary of the Air Force Medallion to civilian personnel employees Marsha Fries (left) and Virginia Henderson (center). Fries and Henderson, with a combined 65 years of service, were presented the medallions for their expertise and accomplishments over the last three years. They've had the responsibility of planning and conducting the civilian Reduction In Force to accomplish base closure. Through their efforts, only 244 employees have been involuntarily separated out of a reduction of 6,930 positions. Countless hours of overtime, which included working late at night and on weekends, were spent charting the RIFs to assure appropriate placements were made. The duo also planned and conducted Voluntary Separation Incentive Program/Voluntary Early Retirement Authority programs resulting in 2,894 employees voluntarily leaving to reduce the number of employees affected by the RIFs.



U.S. Air Force photo by Alica Doyle

SPACEMAKER

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Air Force Vision

"Air Force people building the world's most respected air and space force ... global power and reach for America"

Air Force Materiel Command Vision

"Quality Systems for America's Air Force"

Sacramento Air Logistics Center Vision

"Completing the mission of McClellan AFB with professionalism and honor"

Fiscal year 2000 RIF gets charted

By Evelyn Kidwell
Director of Personnel

The civilian personnel department is in the process of charting the fiscal year 2000 Reduction In Force. During this process, more Voluntary Separation Incentive Program/Voluntary Early Retirement Authority matches are being made and offered to employees. When employees are notified, they are given two days with which to accept or decline. The short time frame given is because RIF charting must continue to be able to meet the March 13 schedule to issue RIF notices.

VSIP matches must be accepted or declined quickly so personnel can either offer it to another employee or decide if it will be necessary to issue a separation notice to an affected employee. This process has been implemented to try to reduce the number of employees who may otherwise be affected in the RIF. Employees who have applied for the VSIP and have not yet been offered it by personnel, should be thinking now whether or not they would accept it if offered. Therefore, it won't be difficult for them to respond quickly when given the opportunity to do so.

Since the original VSIP offers were made,

in October 1999, 49 more offers have been made, since Feb. 1. Only 19 employees have accepted. Approximately 175 employees are still available to be matched. However, matching is becoming more and more difficult as positions being abolished for the most part do not match the skills of the employees who have applied for the VSIP/VERA.

Only 521 positions will remain at the Sacramento Air Logistics Center, Oct. 1, 2000. Therefore, there are very few vacancies to offer employees whose positions have been abolished. Currently, if more VSIPs are not accepted, and with such a small number of remaining vacancies, it is anticipated approximately 450 employees will receive separation notices March 13.

It is recommended that all employees seriously think about their future and take advantage of the many transition programs offered to reduce the impact on fellow workers, such as VSIP/VERA offers, voluntary priority placement program registration, FOCUS Center job fairs and vacancy announcements, operating location offerings, Sacramento Employment Training Agency retraining and other programs. Also, this summer, the voluntary RIF program will be offered. More information on that program will be provided through future announcements.

Turn-in process faster than ever

By Jim Reeves
Public Affairs

A process that once took several weeks or even months has been reduced to a few weeks and in some cases, days. Turning in old Automated Data Processing Equipment has never been faster or easier.

February is reconciliation month for ADPE computer equipment, therefore, custodians are urged to reduce as much excess inventory as possible while manpower is still available to assist in the process.

As the base transitions through the closure process, computers and associated peripheral equipment, such as memory upgrades, monitors, keyboards, mice and printers need to be turned into 77th Communication Squadron, Information Technology Equipment Management Section. Equipment custodians are asked to follow these steps to ensure a timely turn-in:

- Ensure all hard drives have been wiped clean of any files or programs by using the approved procedures found in Air Force Instruction 33-114, Air Force Materiel Command Supplement 1. For assistance, call the SCXA help desk at 643-3560.
- Complete the Computer System Action AFMC Form 32 and forward to 77th CS/SCXA. Guidelines and procedures for completing AFMC Form 32 can be found in AFI-33-112, AFMC Supplement 1, Attachment 6. The FormFlow Filler program, which is used to complete the AFMC Form 32, can be downloaded from <http://www.afmc.wpafb.af.mil/pdl/afmc/sup.htm>. Completed forms are to be mailed or dropped off at Bldg. 786A, upstairs.
- Upon submission of AFMC Form 32, the authorized custodian will be contacted and given disposition instructions.

For more information, custodians can seek additional guidance from 77th CS/SCXA anytime during this process by calling 643-3560 or the help desk at 643-4843.

RIF/VSIP/VERA SCHEDULE

- VSIP/VERA application -- June 1 - 30, 2000
- Submit abolish Standard Form 52s -- June 30, 2000
- VSIP/VERA offers -- Aug. 1, 2000
- Flexible VSIP/VERA separations -- Sept. 28, 2000, Oct. 1, 2000, and April 13, 2001
- Issue pre-Reduction In Force letters -- Feb. 14, 2000
- Issue RIF letters -- March 13, 2000 and Dec. 13, 2000
- RIF separation -- Sept. 29, 2000 and April 13, 2001
- RIF change to lower grade -- Oct. 1, 2000

NEWS BRIEFS

Cholesterol class at HAWC

The McClellan Health and Wellness Center is offering a Cholesterol class Feb. 24 from noon to 1:30 p.m. at the HAWC, Rafferty Hall, Bldg. 1403.

The class is open to all interested active duty, dependents, retirees and Department of Defense civilians. For more information and to register, call 643-4648.

Ladies Rally at Chapel Annex March 4

McClellan's Protestant Women of the Chapel are hosting a Ladies Rally, March 4 from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. in the Chapel Annex, Bldg. 1420.

The guest speaker is Allegra McBirney, noted author, speaker and national radio personality. Her program, "A Time for Sharing," is heard across America.

Lunch will be provided by the Chapel. It will be a lady's day of fellowship, food and fun. The event is open to everyone, military and civilian. Call Margaret Hair at 726-6945 or Beverly Gilcrease at 331-6019 for reservations by Feb. 28.

EQUAL List

The EQUAL overseas listing is now available. For those who have an assignment availability of September 2000, this is your opportunity to take advantage of the enhanced overseas consideration during this assignment match.

If you wish to volunteer for an overseas assignment, please update your overseas preferences no later than Feb. 25. If you do not wish to volunteer for an overseas assignment, please ensure that you remove your overseas assignment preferences immediately.

Overseas preferences should be updated through the appropriate commander support staffs. If you have any questions concerning this matter, call Master Sgt. Jeff Skinner at 643-5104.

Community College of the Air Force Degree Candidates

To be included in the Spring 2000 Community College of the Air Force graduation, military member candidates must be nominated no later than Feb. 25. If you believe you meet CCAF degree requirements and have not already worked with a counselor for this nomination, contact the base education office as soon as possible.

For further information, go to Bldg. 8, Room 225, every Monday through Friday from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

GSA lists hotels offering government rates

A listing of hotels offering rooms at the government per diem rate for 2000 is now available on the General Services Administration Web site: <http://www.gsa.gov/regions/r9/travel/balv.htm>

Building Security

If anyone has a need to enter a vacant building or finds a vacant building unsecured, call the 77th civil engineering group at 643-5715. The group is responsible for the preservation maintenance of all vacant facilities on base, pending transfer through lease to local redevelopment authority. CE has increased security for those vacant facilities, to the extent of daily checks for many.

Travel card becomes mandatory March 1

WASHINGTON — Air Force financial officials are continuing to work with the Department of Defense on details regarding the use of a government Visa travel card for all federal employees.

Use of the government Visa travel card by all federal employees becomes mandatory March 1, according to revised policies dictated by the Travel and Transportation Reform Act of 1998. At that time, federal employees will no longer have a choice of using their personal credit charge cards for authorized expenses while on official travel.

The government Visa card offers federal employees the advantage of wider acceptance from merchants and Automated Teller Machines than the American Express card did. In addition, it will reduce travel costs to the government through discounts and rebates.

However, questions have been raised by military and civilian Air Force members and their commanders ranging from mandatory use of the card to privacy issues. Air Force finance officials said they are addressing each of these issues and will distribute guidance to the field before March 1.

"I urge all members to apply for their government travel card if they have not yet done so," said Michael Weber, travel coordinator for the Air Force. "The card offers tangible benefits to our Air Force members and stretches the Air Force's limited travel budget." (AFPN)

EDITOR'S NOTE

■ Look for local guidance for McClellan Air Force Base in a future issue of the *Spacemaker*.

Degree programs available from AFIT

Air Force Institute of Technology Electrical and Computer Engineering Department is soliciting applications to enter the Electrical Engineering Advanced Academic Degree Program at AFIT. Some of the areas of study include Low Observables (stealth), Global Positioning Systems, Electro-optics, Communications, Microelectronics, and Guidance and Control. Academically eligible officers may have the opportunity to pursue a masters or doctoral degree at AFIT for the September 2000 class.

Interested officers must first apply to AFIT to establish their eligibility. It is recommended that this be accomplished before March 17. Eligibility criteria and AFIT academic application procedures are under the Counseling Section of the AFIT Web site at: <http://afit.af.mil/> then click on the admissions icon.

Eligible officers should then contact their Air Force Personnel Center Officer Assignment Team to determine if AFIT master of science in electrical engineering positions are available and if they are releasable for reassignment.

If selected and approved, officers would report to AFIT no later than Aug. 22. For additional information, call Maj. James A. Lott, DSN 785-3636, Ext. 4576, or the base education office at 643-4776 between 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (Submitted by civilian personnel)

Pigeon droppings are corrosive to museums' planes

By Jim Reeves

Public Affairs

Display aircraft at McClellan's Aviation Museum are being contaminated by pigeons looking for a home.

The elimination of this bird invasion is vital to the longevity of museums' airplanes. Droppings from pigeons are corrosive and can damage paint as well as corrode some metals.

Because of the nature of aircraft structure and the natural instincts of the local pigeon population, Al Brown, director of the museum, has his hands full trying to keep the birds out of the planes.

With the help of six aircraft maintenance people, temporarily on loan from the 652nd Combat Logistics Support Squadron, Brown has been able to keep birds out of most the museum airplanes.

The aircraft maintainers have outfitted the planes with metal screens blocking access to selected interior sections.

However, for one plane this "fix" was still not enough.

"The C-54 Sky Master has presented unique problems," said Derrel Fleenor, museum curator.

The forward landing gear bay has become a challenge in that bird droppings are left after prevention practices should have stopped the problem. A wire screen has been placed inside, under the bay opening, and over various exhaust and vent openings.

"This should have effectively sealed off access to the underside of this plane," stated Fleenor. "However, pigeons droppings are still being discovered."

Another concern for Fleenor is the Sky Master's four Pratt and Whitney R-2000-11 radial engines.

"The propellers on the engines are able to spin in wind," said Fleenor.

The museum noted that this could be a safety hazard and that it could be rectified by securely fastening the propellers with a mechanical devise.



U.S. Air Force photo by Jim Reeves

Senior Airman Anthony Cutter, 652nd Combat Logistics Support Squadron, ensures the propeller is held securely in place after performing required modifications on a C-54 Sky Master radial engine.

In the past, museum personnel would simply build brackets to hold the propeller in place, he said. This turned out to be an unsatisfactory solution because of the nesting habits of our feathered friends. Putting wire screens over the front of the cowling proved cumbersome with the brackets in the way. Therefore, chains have been substituted as a solution for propeller movement.

"We are doing everything we can think of to try to stay two steps in front of the birds," said Fleenor. "Obviously, the best long-term solution would be to relocate the aircraft to a covered area."

African-Americans make host of contributions

This is a story of a little boy named Theo who woke up one morning and asked his mother, "Mom, what if there were no black people in the world?"

His mother thought about that for a moment, and then said, "Son, follow me around today and let's just see what it would be like if there were no black people in the world. Now, go get dressed and we'll get started."

Theo ran to his room to put on his clothes and shoes. His mother gave one look at him and said, "Theo, where are your shoes, and those clothes are all

wrinkled. Son, I must iron them."

But when she reached for the ironing board, it was no longer there. You see, Sarah Boon, a black woman, invented the ironing board.

"Oh well," said his mother. "Please go and do something with your hair."

Theo ran in his room to comb his hair, but the comb was not there. You see, Walter Simmons, a black man, invented the comb.

Theo decided to just brush his hair, but it too was gone. Lydia O. Newman, a black woman, invented the brush. Even mom's

hair was a mess without the hair cares inventions of Madam C.J. Walker, the first black millionaire.

Mom told Theo, "Let's do our chores around the house then take a trip to the grocery store."

Theo's job was to sweep the floor. He swept and swept and swept. When he reached for the dustpan, it was not there. You see, Lloyd P. Ray, a black man, invented the dustpan. So, Theo swept his pile of dirt into a corner and left it there.

See "THEO" Page 7

Jobs available at Hill Air Force Base

Hill Air Force Base Operating Location is opening a Greenborder Announcement for various general schedule and wage grade positions that will be identified on the announcement.

This announcement is open through Friday. Only career, career conditional and Veterans Re-appointment Authority employees, who are working and serviced by McClellan Air Force Base, are eligible to apply.

Selection of employees will require a signed re-location and mobility agreement. AFLC Form 4999 is available at the focus center or at the reception desk in Bldg. 10.

Census Bureau testing

The Census Bureau is returning to test for Field and Office vacancies on Wednesday. If you wish to test or retest to improve your score, call Greg Eason, FOCUS Center, at 643-5661 or Master Sgt. David Lee at 643-1106. They will schedule you for either the 10 a.m. or the 1 p.m. session. Testing will be conducted at the Chapel Annex and is open to all McClellan employees, civilian and military.

Administrative leave may be used for this function.

FOCUS CENTER

This section contains some of the job announcements available at the McClellan Air Force Base FOCUS Center. For additional information, contact FOCUS Center #1 at 643-5661. FOCUS #1 is open until 7 p.m. Thursdays.

Position: Program Support Clerk, GS-303-04/06
Annc#: 99-130MS
Close: Feb. 23
Location: Sacramento, CA
Agency: Veterans Administration
POC: Barbara Nelson (925) 372-2120
Remarks: See note below

Position: Management Analyst, GS-343-09/12
Annc#: 00-124-ICP
Close: Feb. 23
Location: Alameda, CA
Agency: Dept of Transportation
POC: (800) 842-8740
Remarks: See note below.

Position: Computer Specialist, GS-334-07/11
Annc#: CA-00-028
Close: Feb. 29
Location: Susanville, CA
Agency: Bureau of Land Management
POC: (916) 978-4460
Remarks: See note below.

Position: Electrical Engineer, GS-850-09/12
Annc#: SNR-00-04DE
Close: March 3
Location: Folsom, CA
Agency: Dept of Energy
POC: (916) 353-4566
Remarks: See note below.

Position: Program Analyst, GS-343-12
Annc#: 20-26
Close: Feb. 28
Location: San Francisco, CA
Agency: Dept of Treasury
POC: (415) 817-7200
Remarks: See note below.

Position: Realty Specialist, GS-1170-11/12
Annc#: LF0109CA
Close: Feb. 28
Location: Sacramento, CA
Agency: Dept of Transportation
POC: Mark Harris (303) 969-5772
Remarks: See note below.

Position: Supervisory Environmental Engineer, GS-819-12
Annc#: CAO-00-02
Close: Feb. 27
Location: Sacramento, CA
Agency: Bureau of Indian Affairs
POC: Sara Cotterill/Elaine Brin (916) 566-7001
Remarks: See note below.

Position: Electrical Engineer, GS-850-05/07 Promotion Potential to GS-12
Annc#: SNR-00-06DE
Close: March 3
Location: Folsom, CA
Agency: Dept of Energy
POC: (916) 353-4566
Remarks: See note below.

Position: Electronics Technician, GS-856-11
Annc#: 00-122-ICP
Close: Feb. 22
Location: Alameda, CA
Agency: Dept of Transportation
POC: (800) 842-8740
Remarks: See note below.

Position: Secretary (Office Automation), GS-318-06
Annc#: CA-00-0024
Close: Feb. 18
Location: Sacramento, CA
Agency: Bureau of Land Management
POC: (916) 978-4460
Remarks: See note below.

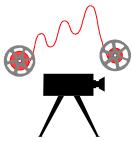
Position: Engineering Equipment Operator, WG-5716-08 (2 Vacancies)
Annc#: R501-114-00
Close: March 9
Location: Arcadia, CA
Agency: Forest Service
POC: Sonia Bergdhal (626) 574-1613
Remarks: See note below.

NOTE

■ Copies of the vacancy announcements are available in the FOCUS Center. Review the announcement and contact the agency for KSA's and/or

Non-Federal

Position: Clinical Social Worker
Close: Until filled
Location: McClellan Air Force Base
Agency: Choctaw Management Services Enterprise
POC: Greg Meyer/Steve Dellwo Toll Free (877) 267-3728
Remarks: Contact the agency for KSA's and/or additional information. CMSE also hires social workers and BSN Nurses for USAF Family Advocacy positions worldwide.



Movies

Movies start at 7 p.m., unless otherwise noted, in Bldg. 1417. Movies are subject to change.

Deuce Bigalow Male Gigolo - Friday

Starring: Rob Schneider, William Forsyth

Deuce is a down-on-his-luck guy who cleans fish tanks for a living. His life changes dramatically when he is hired to clean the Koi pond at a luxury Malibu apartment complex. He ends up fish sitting a sick lionfish owned by Antoine A. DeBonair, world class male escort. He is told two things: don't answer the phone and don't drive the porsche. He answers Antoine's business phone and becomes "Deuce Bigalow: Male Gigolo." (R - sexual content, language and crude humor)

Toystory 2 - Saturday -- 4 p.m.

Animation

In Toystory 2, the fun and adventure continues when Andy goes off to summer camp and the toys are left to their own devices. Things shift into high gear when an obsessive toy collector kidnaps Woody, who unbeknownst to himself, is a highly valued collectable. (G)

The Green Mile - Saturday and Sunday

Starring: Tom Hanks, David Morse

Paul Edgecomb is a slightly cynical veteran prison guard on death row in the 1920's. His faith and sanity has deteriorated by watching men live and die and now he is about to have a complete turn around in attitude. Enter John Coffey, he's eight feet tall and has hands the size of waffle irons. He's been accused of the murder of two children ... and he's afraid to sleep in a cell without a nightlight. (R - violence, language, some sex related material)

Youth Center

■ **Today:** Open recreation, 2-6 p.m.; open gym, 2-3 p.m.; open snack bar, 2-6 p.m.; advanced gymnastics, 3:15-4:15 p.m.; Tae Bo aerobics, 6:15-7:15 p.m., ages 11 and up, free.

■ **Friday:** Open recreation, 2-6 p.m.; open snack bar 2-6 p.m.; open gym, 2-6 p.m.; Teen Night, 6:30-10 p.m., ages 13-18, members free, nonmembers \$2.

■ **Saturday:** Open recreation and snack bar from noon to 5 p.m. Basketball games begin at 10 a.m.

■ **Sunday:** Closed

■ **Monday:** Closed

■ **Tuesday:** Open recreation, 2-6 p.m.; open gym, 4:15-6 p.m.; open snack bar, 2-6 p.m.; beginning gymnastics, 3:15-4:15 p.m.

■ **Wednesday:** Open recreation, 2-6 p.m.; open gym, 2-5:15 p.m.; open snack bar, 2-6 p.m.; beginning dance lessons, 5:30-6:30 p.m.

Theo

from Page 5

"Well son," she said, "let me finish washing these clothes and we'll prepare a list for the grocery store."

When the wash finished, she went to place the clothes in the dryer, but it was not there. You see, George T. Samon, a black man, invented the clothes dryer.

Mom asked Theo to get a pencil and paper to prepare the list for the market. So, Theo ran and got the paper and pencil, but noticed the pencil led was broken. He was out of luck because John Love, a black man, invented the pencil sharpener. So, mom reached for a pen, but it was not there because William Purvis, a black man, invented the fountain pen. As a matter of fact, Lee Burrige invented the typewriting machine and W.A. Lovette invented the advanced printing press.

Theo and his mother decided to go to the grocery store. When Theo opened the front door he noticed the grass was as high as he was tall. You see, John Burr, a black man, invented the lawn mower.

Well, it was getting late, so they walked to the market. As they walked, Theo and his mother noticed the cars were running into each other. There were no traffic signals because Garrett Morgan, a black man, invented the traffic light.

Theo and his mother purchased their groceries and returned home. Just when they were about to put away the groceries, they noticed the refrigerator was gone. You see, John Standard, a black man, invented the refrigerator.

By this time, Theo noticed he was getting very cold. Mom went to turn up the heat, and what do you know, Alice Parker, a black woman, invented the heating furnace. Even in the summer time they would have been out of luck because Frederick Jones, a black man, invented the air conditioner. It was almost time for Theo's father to arrive home from work. He usually took the bus, but there was no bus. Its precursor was the electric trolley, and a black man named Elbert R. Robinson invented that. Theo's father had to take the elevator from his office on the 20th floor, but there was no elevator because a black man named Alexander Miles invented it. When Theo's father finally arrived, he found Theo and his mother sitting at the kitchen table with their heads in their hands.

"Why are you sitting in the dark?" asked his father.

"Because Lewis Howard Latimer, a black man, invented the filament within the light bulb," said Theo's mother. For one day, Theo quickly learned what it would be like if there were no black people in the world.

"Mom, if there were no black people, it's pretty plain to see we'd still be in the dark!" — *Author unknown*

TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE

To test your knowledge about African-Americans who've made contributions to the United States, stop by the McClellan Library where they are sponsoring an African-American History Month contest. Guess who the pictures of African-Americans are, write down the names on the provided form and enter to win prizes being awarded at the end of the month. For more information, call 643-4640.

MONDAY HOLIDAY HOURS OF OPERATION

Main store - 9 a.m. to noon
Service station - 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Shoppette - 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Class Six - Noon to 5 p.m.
Concessions - 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Burger King - 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Barber shop - Closed
Beauty shop - Closed

Military clothing - Closed
Anthony's Pizza - Closed
Robin Hood - Closed
Frank's Frank - Closed
Theater - Closed

Normal hours of operation will resume the Tuesday after President's Day.

Legal aid

Free tax assistance offered by base members

By Capt. Kathryn Stengell
Tax Program Officer

To assist military members, retirees and dependents with filing their tax returns, the McClellan Air Force Base legal office, in conjunction with the Internal Revenue Service, has provided instruction to 28 volunteers for the annual Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program. These trained volunteers are available to answer specific tax questions, as well as preparing and electronically filing tax forms.

In addition, federal tax forms are available for pick up at McClellan's library and the tax center in Bldg. 250HH, second floor, which is located across from the base restaurant on Peacekeeper Way. California forms are also available, along with a limited number of other state forms. If you need another state's form, which is not available at these locations, you can download most forms from the IRS web site at www.irs.gov or write to your state's tax agency or revenue department.

To schedule an appointment for tax assistance, active duty personnel may contact their unit tax representatives, who will meet with clients in their workplaces or at the tax center. The following is a list of unit tax vol-

unteers at McClellan Air Force Base:

Retirees, dependents, and members of units without tax representatives may call the tax center at 643-3315 or 643-3317 to schedule appointments.

The tax center will be open on Mondays and Tuesdays from 8:30-10:30 a.m. and 1-3 p.m., and Wednesdays from 8:30-10:30 a.m.

The tax assistance provided under the VITA program is not designed for business or complex returns; however, the representatives will try to assist the members within the limits of our volunteers' abilities.

Eligible individuals are encouraged to take advantage of the services these volunteers have to offer.

NAMES AND NUMBERS TO KNOW

■ SM-ALC/Staff Judge Advocate
Capt. Kathryn Stengell, 643-3150
Tech. Sgt. Danita Anderson, 643-5420
Staff Sgt. Alphonso Overton, 643-5420
Staff Sgt. Stephen L. Bryant, 643-3150

■ 77th Air Base Wing/Logistics Group
Staff Sgt. Orin Taylor, 643-0219
Veronica Fletcher, 643-1471

■ 77th Security Forces Squadron
Tech. Sgt. Gregory Fowlkes, 643-6282
Staff Sgt. James Morrison, 643-1073
Staff Sgt. Davern Bridgeforth, 643-3839

■ 652nd Combat Logistics Support Squadron
Master Sgt. James Selter, 643-5769
Tech. Sgt. Tanya Susong, 643-1177
Senior Airman Julie L. Green, 643-2951

■ 938th Engineering Installation Squadron
Master Sgt. Carma Robinson, 643-6422

Tech. Sgt. Michael Mays, 643-1711
Tech. Sgt. Brenda Soule, 643-3533
Senior Airman Orion Davies, 643-5141
Tech. Sgt. Debra Schnuth, 643-3744

■ 77th Support Group
Master Sgt. Paul Hendrix, 643-6277
Tech. Sgt. Eduardo Ramirez, 643-5879
Staff Sgt. David Miles, 643-6660
Dora Mays, 643-1106
Wintress Reese, 643-6660
Perry Owen, 643-4750
Airman 1st Class Kiwana Brantley, 643-8041
Tech. Sgt. Harold Freeze, 643-2335

■ 77th Medical Group
Senior Airman Paul Barnett, 643-8041

■ Detachments
James Gray, 568-4063
Lydia Raney, 643-2872

SWAP MEET

For sale

Truck -- Must Sell! 97 Mazda B2300 Ext Cab pick-up, 5-spd, bed liner, alarm & more. Exc. cond, warranty. \$10,900/obo. Call 643-8520 days, (707) 455-8566 evenings.

Truck -- 91 Ford Ranger, Ext Cab, camper shell, bed liner, new tires, cruise control, AM/FM stereo cass, 136K miles, \$3,600. Call (916) 339-2448.

Clarinet and Flute -- Both play very well and are in good condition. \$190 each. Call (916) 332-9446 evenings.

Miscellaneous

Wanted -- Newer day bed with trundle. Call (530) 633-0896 if interested in selling.

Wanted -- New and gently used infant and toddler boy's clothes. Call 683-1749.

Editor's note: Swap ads are a free, space-available-only service for military members, civil service employees, retirees and associated family members possessing current ID cards. The ads must be for the personal use of the card holder. Drop off ads at Bldg. 200, room 125. Swap ads will not be published without a

signature. The deadline is noon, Wednesday for possible publication in the following Thursday's issue. Only one Swap ad per household per week, up to 50 words, may be submitted.

However, the ad can apply to more than one category, such as items wanted/trade, vehicles, furniture and yard sales.

Spacemaker reserves the right to edit. No ads for money-making businesses, including daycare, or the sale of firearms or firearm accessories will be accepted.

To run a swap ad again, it must be resubmitted. For more information, call the Spacemaker at 643-6100.